

## KSwAGS: A *SWIFT* X-RAY AND UV SURVEY OF THE *KEPLER* FIELD. I.

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### ABSTRACT

We introduce the first phase of the *Kepler–Swift* Active Galaxies and Stars survey (KSwAGS), a simultaneous X-ray and UV survey of  $\sim 6$  square degrees of the *Kepler* field using the *Swift* X-ray telescope (XRT) and UV/Optical Telescope. We detect 93 unique X-ray sources with signal-to-noise ratio  $\geq 3$  with the XRT, of which 60 have UV counterparts. We use the *Kepler* Input Catalog (KIC) to obtain the optical counterparts of these sources, and construct the  $f_X/f_V$  ratio as a first approximation of the classification of the source. The survey produces a mixture of stellar sources, extragalactic sources, and sources which we are not able to classify with certainty. We have obtained optical spectra for thirty of these targets, and are conducting an ongoing observing campaign to fully identify the sample. For sources classified as stellar or active galactic nuclei (AGNs) with certainty, we construct spectral energy distributions (SEDs) using the 2MASS, *UBV*, and *GALEX* data supplied for their optical counterparts by the KIC, and show that the SEDs differ qualitatively between the source types, and so can offer a method of classification in absence of a spectrum. Future papers in this series will analyze the timing properties of the stars and AGN in our sample separately. Our survey provides the first X-ray and UV data for a number of known variable stellar sources, as well as a large number of new X-ray detections in this well-studied portion of the sky. The KSwAGS survey is currently ongoing in the K2 ecliptic plane fields.

**Key words:** galaxies: active – galaxies: Seyfert – stars: activity – stars: variables: general – surveys

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The *Kepler* mission was designed to detect exoplanets in the habitable zone by searching for repeating transits in the light curves of over 150,000 sunlike stars. The exceptional photometric and temporal precision, high duty cycle, and rapid, continuous sampling required for this task make *Kepler* a unique asset for the study of various other astrophysical targets in its 100 square-degree field of view (FOV). To detect exoplanets with up to year-long orbital timescales, *Kepler* remained continuously pointed at a region of the sky in the constellation Cygnus, chosen for its high density of observable dwarf stars. During its prime mission, *Kepler* collected hundreds of thousands of light curves for sources over baselines of a few months to 4.25 years by telemetering “postage stamps” of pixels around chosen stars and sampling with 30 minute cadence. In addition to high precision light curves, *Kepler* also produces Full Frame Images (FFIs), 29.4 minute exposures of the entire FOV, approximately once per month. The *Kepler* Science Center maintains that the full field contains  $\sim 10$  million stars above the confusion limit of 20–21 mag, and the FFIs can provide photometry on monthly cadences for all objects in the *Kepler* FOV, regardless of whether high-cadence light curves were collected. This rich data set includes previously unidentified variable astrophysical sources over an impressive range of distance scales, both within the Galaxy and throughout the larger universe. Sources within the Milky Way include RR Lyrae stars (Guggenberger 2012), rapidly oscillating peculiar A (roAp) stars (Balona et al. 2013), and cataclysmic variables (CVs) (Scaringi et al. 2013).

Optically variable extragalactic sources such as Seyfert 1 galaxies (Mushotzky et al. 2011) and BL Lac objects (Edelson et al. 2013) are tantalizing candidates, since the accretion physics in active galactic nuclei (AGNs) is poorly understood. The size scale of the accretion disk is approximately  $\leq 0.01$  parsecs, or  $\sim 1$  mas for even the nearest active galaxies. Such a measurement is still well below resolvable scales for any optical observatories. Variability studies are then the only direct probe of conditions within the disk itself, and consequently of the process of accretion. Theory predicts model-dependent light curve characteristics; for example, Reynolds & Miller (2009) predicted clear g-mode oscillations and characteristic frequencies in the power spectrum that correspond to local acoustic waves. One also expects that the characteristic timescales of the disk (i.e., the thermal, viscous, and dynamical timescales) would be evident in light curve with sufficiently rapid and regular sampling. *Kepler* provides the AGN community with its first opportunity to measure such effects in the optical.

*Kepler’s* bounty of unprecedented high-precision light curves has resulted in its FOV being one of the best-studied regions of the sky. Objects in the *Kepler* Input Catalog (KIC) overlap with the 2-Micron All-Sky Survey (2MASS; Skrutskie et al. 2006), the *Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer* (Wright et al. 2010), and the *Galaxy Evolution Explorer* survey (*GALEX*; Martin et al. 2003). Additionally, Everett et al. (2012) conducted an optical photometric survey of the field in the *UBV* bands. An X-ray survey of the *Kepler* field is therefore prudent, providing an important and unique resource for locating interesting variable objects in this field.

X-ray selection is an effective way to curate a sample of astrophysically interesting variable stars and extragalactic

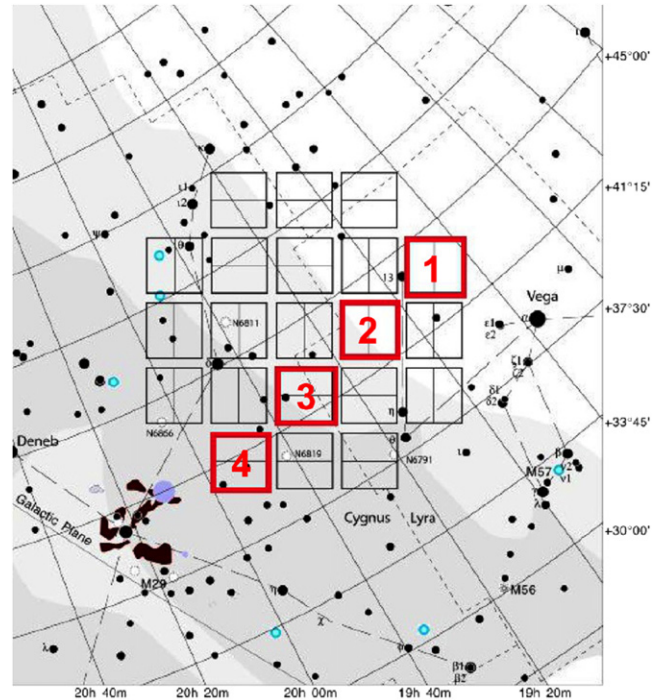
sources. To capitalize on the wealth of data for the objects in the *Kepler* field, both photometric and archival, we have conducted the *Kepler*–*Swift* Active Galaxies and Stars survey (KSwAGS), a *Swift* X-ray telescope (XRT) survey of four modules of the *Kepler* field that is approximately 10 times deeper than the *ROSAT* All-Sky Survey (RASS; Voges et al. 1999). We chose these four modules to lie approximately perpendicular to the galactic plane, sampling a range of galactic latitudes. Additionally, the co-aligned *Swift* UV/Optical Telescope (UVOT) provides concurrent UV coverage for each KSwAGS pointing. We present here the first KSwAGS catalog of X-ray sources in the original *Kepler* FOV, their UVOT and archival data, and an introduction to the KSwAGS series of temporal analysis papers. This first phase of the KSwAGS survey detected 93 unique X-ray sources. This includes a number of known stellar variables and two previously identified AGNs. For newly discovered sources, we present the best determination of the nature of the object via optical spectra, X-ray to optical flux ratios ( $f_x/f_v$ ), the shapes of the broadband spectral energy distribution (SED), and, where possible, inspection of the optical light curves. Since the *Kepler* FOV was chosen explicitly to be typical of the Milky Way galaxy, results should be widely relevant and offer a typical density of exotic variable sources near the galactic plane. This paper serves as an introduction to the survey, which is currently ongoing in the new *Kepler* (known as K2) ecliptic plane fields. The time variability physics and temporal analyses will be presented in two upcoming papers, focused separately on the stellar sources and the AGN.

This paper is organized as follows: in Section 2, we describe our X-ray and UV survey and the identification of the optical counterparts. Section 3 explains the various methods used to classify the sources as either stellar or extragalactic, and categorize the sources based on their optical spectra or archival information. In Section 4, we provide samples of the light curves and analysis of a stellar source and an AGN, to exemplify the content of the follow-up papers dedicated to each of these samples. Section 5 describes our ongoing survey in the new ecliptic plane K2 fields, and the final section summarizes the products of the survey and future directions.

## 2. SURVEY FIELD AND SOURCE DETECTION

KSwAGS was conducted with the *Swift* XRT, which operates in the 0.2–10 keV range with a sensitivity of  $2 \times 10^{-14}$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$  in 10 $^4$  s. The XRT FOV is  $23.6 \times 23.6$  arcmin (Burrows et al. 2005). The co-aligned UVOT is sensitive to the 170–650 nm range and has a sensitivity of  $B = 22.3$  in white light in 1000 s and a FOV of  $17 \times 17$  arcmin (Roming et al. 2005). The UVOT has six broad-band optical and UV filters; the KSwAGS survey uses the near-UV (NUV) *uvm2* filter ( $\lambda_c = 2246$  Å), since the *Kepler* FOV is already well-studied in the optical. Additionally, the UVOT NUV filters suffer from a phenomenon known as “red leak,” in which the NUV flux is artificially inflated by the counting of optical photons due to red tails in the filters’ transmission curves. The *uvm2* filter has the smallest amount of red leak of the three NUV filters (Breeveld et al. 2011).

The entire *Kepler* FOV consists of 21 modules. KSwAGS covers four of these modules, outlined in red in Figure 1, and subtends  $\sim 6$  square degrees. The modules are roughly perpendicular to the galactic plane, decreasing in galactic latitude from Region 1 to Region 4. Each of the four modules is



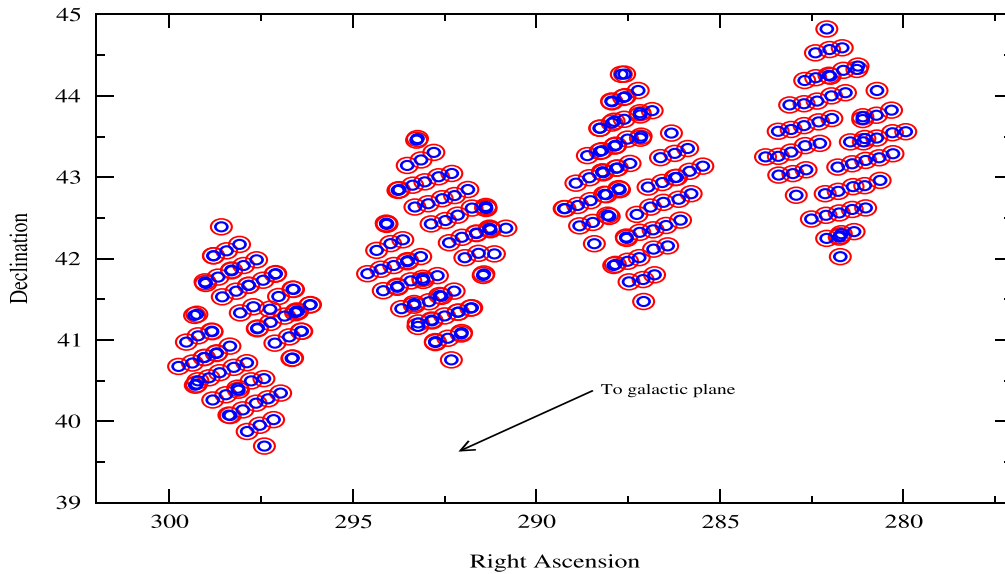
**Figure 1.** Map of the *Kepler* FOV, with the *Swift*-surveyed modules outlined in red. Region 1 is the upper right module, with the regions increasing in number toward the galactic plane (bottom left).

covered in 56 total pointings, indexed from 00 to 55, with each pointing lasting approximately 2 ks. Figure 2 shows the locations of the XRT and UVOT pointings on the sky; note the smaller UVOT FOV.

For source detection, the XRT raw images and exposure maps were analyzed using XIMAGE. The background was optimized and the sources were located using the task `detect` with a signal-to-noise ratio ( $S/N$ )  $\geq 3$ , making use of the `bright` qualifier. The `bright` flag creates a weighted mean of each excess and optimizes the point-spread function (PSF), preventing the detection algorithm from erroneously interpreting one large source as several smaller “detections”; however, note that if two *real* sources were within the optimized PSF, our method would report only one source.

After removing duplicate sources from pointing overlaps and eliminating detections of extended emission from single sources, we have detected 93 total X-ray sources with  $S/N \geq 3$ , which corresponds to approximately 12 total counts or 0.006 cts s $^{-1}$  within our narrow range of exposure times and background estimates. Table 1 lists these detections, as well as each source’s XRT count rate and exposure time. In this table, we assign each source an identifying number (KSw #) based on increasing R.A. We will use this ID number to refer to the sources throughout the paper and in subsequent tables.

On the *Swift* spacecraft, the XRT and UVOT are co-aligned to allow for simultaneous multiwavelength follow-up of GRBs detected onboard. To identify the counterpart in the simultaneous UVOT images, we overplotted a contour map of each XRT source onto the co-aligned UVOT image, and selected the counterpart visually. Once a counterpart is selected, we use the FTOOL `uvotsource` to obtain the UV source’s position and flux density. This information is also given in Table 1. The UVOT FOV is approximately half the size of the XRT FOV, so some of our sources do not have UVOT counterparts listed



**Figure 2.** Arrangement of our XRT pointings (red) and UVOT pointings (blue). The UVOT FOV is approximately half the size of the XRT FOV. Overlapping circles occur when multiple pointings were required to obtain the full 2 ks observation. The R.A. axis is inverted for easier comparison to Figure 1. Note that the shape of the UVOT FOV is actually roughly square, but is oriented at various angles within the larger XRT FOV. We use circles here to illustrate the approximate difference in UV/X-ray coverage.

because the XRT source was beyond the edge of the UVOT image. Note, however, that the overlap of our *Swift* pointings (see Figure 2) mitigates this problem to some degree, and so  $\sim 65\%$  of our XRT sources have measurable UVOT counterparts.

Once all detectable UVOT counterparts had been identified, we looked up their optical counterparts in the KIC. For our typical S/N ratio, the XRT can typically localize a source position to  $3''.5$  with 90% confidence. Much of this uncertainty is due to the star-tracker attitude solution onboard the spacecraft (Goad et al. 2007). Positional uncertainty can be reduced when a UVOT sky image is present. With a PSF of  $2''.5$  for each filter and a pixel scale of  $\sim 0''.5$ , an uncorrected UVOT position is typically accurate to within 1 arcsec (Roming et al. 2005). When stars in the UVOT FOV can be matched to the USNOB1 catalog, the aspect correction can result in UVOT positions that are accurate to within  $0''.5$ . Therefore, if the object has a UVOT counterpart, we use this position to query the KIC. An X-ray source might not be detected as UVOT source if it suffers from heavy extinction either from dust in the Milky Way or, in the case of AGN, from innate host galaxy dust. This is certainly the case for KSw 93, Cygnus A, which is a very bright X-ray source but is also a Type 2 AGN, in which UV light from the bright nucleus cannot escape the dust in the circumnuclear torus. However, the majority of our sources without UVOT counterparts result from the relative FOV sizes between the XRT and the UVOT. Table 2 denotes which of these was the case. In the absence of a UVOT source, we query using the X-ray coordinates. The set of coordinates that was used to query the KIC is given for each source in Table 2. In 16 cases, an object had more than one possible KIC counterpart within  $5''$ ; the KSwAGS source number of each of these targets is indicated by an asterisk in Table 2. We have done a case-by-case analysis for each of these to determine which counterpart is the most likely. In the cases of KSw 2, 20, 35, 39, 55, 82, and 93, we have spectroscopically confirmed the listed KIC counterpart as an AGN (see Section 3.1). Since AGNs are ubiquitously X-ray

sources, we can be confident that this is the correct identification. In the case of KSw 85, the listed KIC counterpart is a known *ROSAT* source and active star, and KSw 35 is a spectroscopically confirmed white dwarf. The remaining cases (KSw 19, 26, 37, 41, 45, 50, 72, and 77) are less certain; we determined the most likely KIC counterpart for these objects by overlaying UVOT and XRT contours on STScI-DSS III images and choosing the optical source most congruent with the available contour sets. Once determined, KIC counterpart can then be used to obtain the flux ratio  $f_X/f_V$  (Section 3.2), magnitudes from various sky surveys in other wavebands to construct broadband SEDs (Section 3.3), and most importantly, all quarters of *Kepler* time series data for the source (Section 4).

Of all 93 sources, 23 were already identified in the literature. We obtained optical spectra for an additional 30 sources on the 200 inch Hale telescope at Palomar Observatory during 2014 August 26–28. These spectra were obtained using the double beam spectrograph (DBSP) with a slit width of  $1''$ , equipped with the D-55 dichroic filter to split light between the blue and red arms. The blue arm used a  $1200\text{ mm}^{-1}$  grating with  $R \sim 7700$  and covered  $1500\text{ \AA}$ . The red arm used a  $1200\text{ mm}^{-1}$  grating with  $R \sim 10,000$  and covered  $670\text{ \AA}$ . We observed at least two spectrophotometric stars each night and arc lamp exposures were obtained before each source exposure at the source location. Red spectra were wavelength calibrated with a HeNeAr lamp and blue spectra with a FeAr lamp. While one night was clear and provided stable seeing at  $\sim 1''$ , our seeing deteriorated on the second night, restricting our observations to targets with optical magnitudes  $M_V \leq 17$ . Data reduction was done using IRAF two- and one-dimensional routines for spectroscopic data and produced a final one-dimensional spectrum for each observation. Optical spectra are further discussed in Section 3.1.

### 3. CHARACTERISTICS OF SOURCES

All sources are summarized in Table 2, which contains their most likely KIC counterparts; all available fluxes from *GALEX*,

**Table 1**  
*Swift* XRT and UVOT Sources in the *Kepler* FOV

Src	X-ray R.A.	X-ray Decl.	Region	Pointing	Ct Rate	Exp Time (s)	S/N	UV R.A.	UV Decl.	UVOT Flux (mJy)	Notes
1	280.9950	43.4720	1	12	0.0105	1829.18	3.839	280.9955	43.4743	8.075	
2	281.0685	43.6865	1	13	0.00691	1770.9	3.103	281.0698	43.686	0.004	
3	281.1287	43.2791	1	11	0.00803	1617.21	3.105	281.1273	43.2803	0.041	
4	281.2845	42.6883	1	16	0.00793	1722.52	3.146	281.2855	42.688	0.013	
5	281.5498	42.6175	1	16	0.0187	1720.15	4.963	281.5518	42.6183	0.007	
6	281.7771	43.6767	1	28	0.0168	1674.88	4.207				No UVOT data
7	281.8198	42.3348	1	24	0.011	1601.88	3.756	281.8209	42.3336	0.018	
8	282.1510	44.8243	1	32	0.0129	1668.11	4.184	282.1502	44.8241	0.024	
9	282.1965	42.7612	1	35	0.228	1589.43	18.11	282.1963	42.7609	0.031	
10	282.2645	43.7389	1	37	0.0125	1666.28	3.998				No UVOT data
11	282.3341	43.7350	1	37	0.0137	1888.35	4.43				No UVOT data
12	282.3970	43.7171	1	37	0.00752	1920.81	3.25				No UVOT data
13	282.6576	43.4456	1	43	0.0344	1940.96	7.538	282.6572	43.4447	0.390	
14	282.7376	42.9820	1	42	0.0205	1702.46	5.138	282.737	42.9819	1.130	
15	283.1236	43.6753	1	50	0.00853	1873.03	3.381	283.1242	43.6752	0.044	
16	283.4132	43.1623	1	52	0.00747	1933.13	3.158				Out of FOV
17	283.4805	43.4608	1	53	0.0121	1427.32	3.08				Out of FOV
18	283.5507	43.2023	1	53	0.0094	1702.04	3.388	283.5496	43.2029	0.071	
19	286.3436	43.4668	2	8	0.0104	1440.55	3.024	286.3436	43.4675	0.115	
20	286.3582	42.4609	2	10	0.257	1096.97	15.7	286.3581	42.4611	0.451	
21	286.5829	42.5433	2	11	0.0112	1767.65	3.69				Out of FOV
22	286.8068	41.5243	2	20	0.0796	1274.54	8.031				Out of FOV
23	286.8176	44.0189	2	16	0.122	1573.93	11.24				Out of FOV
24	287.0422	43.7961	2	24	0.0106	1863.42	3.92	287.0419	43.7962	0.009	
25	287.1229	42.3448	2	25	0.0118	1611.42	3.761	287.1238	42.344	0.123	
26	287.2791	44.1560	2	26	0.00793	1714.99	3.133				No UV CP
27	287.2975	41.5352	2	20	0.0184	1598.75	4.455				Out of FOV
28	287.7060	42.9274	2	36	0.0121	3357.91	5.152	287.7059	42.9268	3.410	
29	287.7355	43.5900	2	40	0.00531	3473.52	3.79	287.7359	43.5907	0.044	
30	287.8162	44.1634	2	35	0.00492	3035.28	3.361				Out of FOV
31	287.8831	42.8539	2	36	0.00565	2787.61	3.06	287.8829	42.856	0.008	
32	287.9496	42.0781	2	39	0.00375	3131.29	2.998				Out of FOV
33	287.9973	41.8501	2	39	0.0078	3349.98	4.565	287.9983	41.8504	0.020	
34	288.0440	43.1298	2	44	0.00906	2662.11	4.21	288.0438	43.1288	0.054	
35	288.2545	42.2036	2	47	0.0119	1629.74	3.688	288.2551	42.2034	0.120	
36	288.3293	42.4670	2	42	0.0303	423.119	3.138				Out of FOV
37	288.5651	42.0827	2	47	0.0344	1629.74	6.477				Out of FOV
38	288.5717	42.6082	2	49	0.0248	1649.34	5.6	288.5718	42.6089	0.046	
39	288.6929	42.3920	2	52	0.0134	1709.98	4.119	288.6932	42.3918	0.080	
40	288.7612	43.3231	2	51	0.0155	1714.79	4.496	288.7613	43.323	0.060	
41	291.1622	42.7210	3	3	0.00728	1767.81	3.078				Out of FOV
42	291.3922	41.7268	3	4	0.0108	1711.13	3.846	291.392	41.7271	0.012	
43	291.5486	42.7656	3	3	0.0148	1379.1	3.989				Out of FOV
44	291.6264	41.5510	3	8	0.0841	1115.95	9.203				Out of FOV
45	291.6717	42.1556	3	6	0.00688	1751.02	3.12				Out of FOV
46	292.0210	42.0779	3	10	0.0066	1867.94	3.01				No UV CP
47	292.1626	41.7436	3	16	0.0101	1878.94	3.611				Out of FOV
48	292.1953	42.7736	3	15	0.00715	1836.44	3.109	292.1957	42.7734	0.009	
49	292.2361	43.0941	3	17	0.0261	1824.52	6.291	292.235	43.0936	0.204	
50	292.3142	42.6770	3	15	0.0116	1893.66	3.99	292.313	42.6764	0.027	
51	292.4233	41.2553	3	22	0.00643	1997.72	3.101				No UV CP
52	292.5009	42.2127	3	19	0.00669	1852.89	2.999	292.502	42.2138	0.165	
53	292.6304	42.8299	3	23	0.0148	1948.25	4.669	292.6299	42.8293	0.293	
54	292.6719	43.0381	3	25	0.00965	2027.3	3.918				Out of FOV
55	292.8015	43.2247	3	28	0.0331	1885.49	6.909	292.8021	43.2243	0.465	
56	293.0162	41.0456	3	37	0.0176	1095.07	4.012				Out of FOV
57	293.1699	42.8071	3	33	0.0136	1785.2	4.055	293.1702	42.8074	0.048	
58	293.1876	41.0621	3	37	0.00863	1573.6	3.3				No UV CP
59	293.2583	41.6922	3	42	0.00461	3048.38	3.052	293.2581	41.6923	0.016	
60	293.3043	43.1656	3	43	0.0141	1565.68	3.917	293.3041	43.1653	0.009	
61	293.4492	41.1218	3	37	0.0141	1433.14	4.118				Out of FOV
62	293.5059	41.3211	3	46	0.0248	2363.78	6.557	293.5067	41.3207	0.006	
63	293.6725	42.4138	3	45	0.0213	1475.13	4.429				Out of FOV
64	293.8478	41.2915	3	46	0.00992	2484.73	4.114				Out of FOV



**Table 1**  
(Continued)

Src	X-ray R.A.	X-ray Decl.	Region	Pointing	Ct Rate	Exp Time (s)	S/N	UV R.A.	UV Decl.	UVOT Flux (mJy)	Notes
65	293.9017	42.8962	3	47	0.0111	2231.23	4.395	293.9013	42.896	0.040	
66	293.9578	42.3660	3	51	0.00478	2707.55	3.142	293.9579	42.366	0.092	
67	294.0024	41.9892	3	49	0.00803	2040.93	3.407	294.0035	41.9896	0.015	
68	294.1042	42.4103	3	51	0.0115	2672.43	4.812	294.1045	42.4106	0.039	
69	294.1987	41.7921	3	53	0.00566	2544.91	3.224	294.2041	41.791	0.445	
70	294.3325	41.6892	3	53	0.00658	2544.91	3.11	294.3319	41.6852	2.700	
71	294.3559	41.7774	3	53	0.0204	2544.91	6.22	294.3562	41.7774	0.098	
72	294.4295	41.7054	3	55	0.00585	3116.57	3.366	294.43	41.7055	0.015	
73	296.4893	41.7504	4	3	0.0104	1948.69	4.04				Out of FOV
74	296.5844	40.7630	4	4	0.0102	2099.18	4.029				No UV CP
75	296.8341	40.9947	4	5	0.00906	1913.95	3.571	296.8311	40.9946	91.958	
76	296.9863	41.5419	4	8	0.0118	1781.26	3.856	296.9858	41.541	0.020	
77	297.0958	41.3399	4	6	0.0162	1883.6	4.416				Out of FOV
78	297.1825	39.9171	4	11	0.0132	1977.29	4.41	297.1835	39.9169	108.980	
79	297.3499	41.5886	4	17	0.0959	1822.85	11.45	297.3492	41.5892	0.021	
80	297.3761	41.6051	4	17	0.00916	1871.98	3.457	297.3765	41.6054	0.009	
81	297.3857	39.6107	4	15	0.00652	1896.59	3.008	297.3849	39.6103	0.264	
82	297.5560	42.1157	4	20	0.012	1641.57	3.661				Out of FOV
83	297.7414	40.9773	4	19	0.0117	2939.39	5.362				Out of FOV
84	297.8264	41.3590	4	29	0.0259	1515.32	5.037				Out of FOV
85	297.8535	40.7351	4	26	0.00933	1792.64	3.514	297.8532	40.7355	21.210	
86	297.9148	40.1621	4	28	0.00922	1731.57	3.493				No UV CP
87	297.9698	41.6411	4	32	0.00926	1558.74	3.061				Out of FOV
88	298.4782	40.8922	4	43	0.00871	1525.06	3.182				Out of FOV
89	298.6474	41.4640	4	39	0.00835	1703.89	3.221	298.647	41.4643	2.831	
90	298.7180	41.9749	4	44	0.00662	1817.06	3.02				No UV CP
91	298.7625	40.9228	4	43	0.013	1710.56	4.163	298.7625	40.9219	0.311	
92	298.9334	41.9845	4	44	0.0301	1817.79	6.659				No UV CP
93	299.8686	40.7339	4	55	0.607	1634.21	28.82				No UV CP

the Everett et al. (2012) *UBV* survey, and 2MASS; the X-ray to optical flux ratios; and whether or not the object has an archived *Kepler* light curve. We also provide any previous identifications of the sources in the literature or from the online databases of SIMBAD and NED. KSwAGS has provided new X-ray and UV data for a highly diverse mix of stellar sources, including rapid rotators, pulsating variables, eclipsing binaries, and  $\gamma$  Doradus,  $\delta$  Scuti, and  $\delta$  Cepheid type stars. We have also detected the known Seyfert 1 AGN Zw 229–15, a cataloged BL Lacertae object, and the radio galaxy Cygnus A. From the literature identifications and our optical spectra, we know with certainty the optical counterparts of 53 sources total (57%). For 9 additional sources, we can confidently assess whether the counterpart is stellar or extragalactic using a combination of apparent magnitude (e.g., an object with  $V \sim 8$  is too bright to be an AGN),  $f_X/f_V$ ,  $U - B$  color (e.g., a  $V \sim 20$  source with a very high  $f_X/f_V$  is most likely to be an AGN), or broadband SED shape.

We expected that the relative fraction of stellar and extragalactic sources in a survey region would depend on the galactic latitude of the region. Figure 3 shows the distribution in our four observing modules of the 62 sources for which we can confidently state a stellar or extragalactic origin. As the modules approach the galactic plane, the number of stellar sources outpaces the number of extragalactic sources, as expected. The diverse methods of classifying these sources prevents a robust analysis of the error; we display the trend only to illustrate the survey contents.

Below we outline the various methods used to classify the survey sources as either stellar or as AGN. Briefly: optical

spectra are the most certain form of classification, but we do not have spectra for all KSwAGS targets. The X-ray to optical flux ratio offers a fairly stringent characterization at its extreme ends, but is degenerate at intermediate values. Broadband SEDs can be constructed for sources with adequate archival data in surveys at multiple wavelengths; the SED shape is recognizably different between stars and AGN and can be used to classify some sources. Finally, in the event that a source has very little archival data or an intermediate flux ratio value but does have a *Kepler* light curve, one can use the temporal behavior to rule out an AGN in cases where the variability is strongly periodic.

### 3.1. Optical Spectra

We obtained simultaneous blue and red optical spectra for 31 sources in our sample with the DBSP on the 200-inch Hale telescope at Palomar Observatory. As described above, poor seeing on one of our nights restricted our observations to targets with  $M_V \leq 17$ , reducing the number of faint targets and disproportionately removing AGN from the observable sample; thus, most of our spectroscopic targets are stellar in nature. In all, the Palomar spectra identified 21 stellar sources and 10 AGN. Figure 4 shows typical example spectra of three sources: a chromospherically active star, which are quite common in our sample; a type 1 AGN; and a normal A-type star. It is probable that the A star has a white dwarf companion that is producing the observed X-ray emission; alternatively, there may be confusion with a background X-ray source.

**Table 2**  
Broadband Fluxes and Properties of *Swift* Sources

Src	KIC ID	Kep Mag	GALEX FUV	GALEX NUV	<i>U</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>K</i>	log <i>f<sub>X</sub>/f<sub>V</sub></i>	Light Curve?	Query Coords	Angular Sep. (")	ID
1	7730305	9.32	...	...	180.96	414.91	...	735.34	572.66	389.7	...	Y	UV	2.58	Binary Star
2*	7868547	18.94	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Y	UV	0.96	...
3	7582708	19.18	0.019	0.021	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Y	UV	0.3	...
4	7091410	20.4	...	...	...	0.04	0.05	...	...	...	0.4	...	UV	0.6	...
6	7869590	10.87	0.008	0.129	6.46	39.26	98.81	385.56	422.57	319.99	−2.61	Y	X	2.94	δ Cepheid <sup>a,b</sup>
7	6837514	19.67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	UV	0.6	...
8	8669504	18.95	0.007	0.011	...	0.02	0.04	0.24	0.33	0.32	0.7	...	UV	1.14	...
9	7175757	18.13	...	0.036	0.07	0.08	0.1	...	...	...	1.54	Y	UV	0.3	BL Lac <sup>c,d</sup>
12	7939256	18.37	0.021	0.037	0.1	0.11	0.12	...	...	...	−0.02	...	X	3.6	...
13	7732964	10.95	...	...	18.59	61.26	115.14	238.17	228.61	173.27	−2.36	Y	UV	1.8	Variable <sup>b</sup>
14*	7339343	11.52	...	...	18.72	49.02	...	116.65	94.08	64.14	...	Y	UV	1.44	Puls. Var <sup>e</sup>
15	7871931	18.86	0.016	0.035	0.06	0.07	0.07	...	...	...	0.22	...	UV	0.66	...
16	7505473	16.22	...	2.669	...	146	573.86	30.99	33.42	29.07	−0.72	Y	X	4.92	...
18	7587184	18.81	...	0.013	0.04	...	...	0.23	0.38	0.66	...	...	UV	0.6	...
19	7739728	12.5	...	0.139	4.48	14.4	27.29	63.46	64.49	46.9	−2.26	Y	UV	0.24	Variable <sup>b</sup>
20*	6932990	11.13	...	...	...	...	...	4.22	5.9	0.32	...	Y	UV	0.3	Zw 229 (Sy1) <sup>f,g</sup>
22	6190679	9.03	...	...	41.27	225.71	...	1934.14	2035.64	1542.87	...	Y	X	0.78	K Star <sup>h</sup>
23	8153411	12.64	...	...	4.04	3.46	3.13	0.72	0.74	0.56	−0.25	Y	X	0.78	MV Lyr <sup>i</sup>
24	7948154	14.14	...	...	0.83	3.5	7.58	25.88	28.44	20.91	−1.69	...	UV	0.36	...
25	6849023	18.32	0.041	0.104	0.13	0.18	0.2	0.23	0.36	0.51	−0.06	...	UV	0.54	...
26*	8222218	20.27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	1.56	...
27	6191857	16.52	...	...	0.17	0.27	0.47	2.13	2.68	3.34	−0.25	...	X	0.96	...
28	7350496	9.326	0.042	4.014	136.27	...	...	875.97	733.67	507.61	...	Y	UV	1.2	G Star
29	7811562	18.86	...	...	0.03	0.05	0.06	...	...	...	0.13	...	UV	0.3	...
30	8223265	19.13	...	...	0.04	0.05	0.05	...	...	...	0.16	...	X	2.28	...
31	7270227	16.43	...	...	0.23	0.52	0.85	1.22	1.2	0.79	−1.01	...	UV	0.78	...
32	6594085	18.47	...	...	...	0.05	0.05	...	...	...	...	...	X	4.38	...
33	6431946	19.36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	UV	0.12	...
34	7516296	18.73	0.015	...	0.05	0.05	0.07	...	...	...	0.31	...	UV	0.24	...
35*	6766476	17.98	...	...	0.13	0.14	0.17	...	...	...	...	...	UV	0.12	...
37*	6595746	19.48	...	...	...	...	...	0.83	1.01	1.45	...	...	X	1.74	...
38	7107762	13	...	...	3.84	10.44	18.33	36.79	35.08	25.12	−1.71	Y	UV	0.54	...
39*	6853073	18.27	...	...	0.12	0.16	0.18	0.23	0.32	0.69	0.04	...	UV	0.18	...
40	7674095	18.09	...	...	0.07	0.06	0.06	...	...	...	0.56	...	UV	0.3	...
41*	7198225	18.89	...	...	...	...	0.05	...	...	...	0.38	...	X	2.76	...
42	6362752	19.02	...	...	...	...	0.03	...	...	...	0.66	...	UV	0.42	...
43	7199582	19.52	...	...	...	0.04	0.04	...	...	...	0.69	...	X	4.08	...
45*	6691018	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	2.28	...
46	6606776	19.11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	3.72	...
47	6365080	11.45	...	...	29.81	63.79	92.73	112.64	94.08	66.55	−2.8	Y	X	1.8	Rot. Var. <sup>e</sup>
48	7201595	18.46	...	0.004	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	UV	0.6	...
49	7446357	15.8	...	...	0.7	0.47	0.44	0.57	0.44	0.46	−0.06	Y	UV	0.72	V1504 Cyg <sup>j</sup>
50*	7119467	18.44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	UV	2.46	...
52	6779613	12.62	0.003	0.238	5.91	15.57	26.55	46.83	42.73	30.22	−2.44	Y	UV	0.24	γ Doradus <sup>e</sup>
53	7284688	11.23	0.007	0.395	14.97	41	70.28	121.25	109.22	76.48	−2.51	Y	UV	0.36	Ecl. Binary <sup>e,h, k, l</sup>
54	7447756	7.27	...	...	53.46	...	...	16191.55	24791.34	24050.85	...	...	X	1.5	M Star
55*	7610713	16.74	...	...	...	...	...	1.01	1.3	1.94	...	Y	UV	0.72	...
56	5794742	17.65	0.027	0.051	0.11	0.12	0.23	1.04	1.56	1.76	0.05	...	X	1.68	...
57	7286410	13.05	...	...	2.17	8.32	16.98	48.09	51.37	37.29	−1.93	Y	UV	0.06	Variable <sup>e,h, m</sup>
59	6289488	18.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	UV	0.6	...
60	7532798	19.46	...	...	0.05	0.07	0.09	...	...	...	0.38	...	UV	1.98	...
61	5881515	19.09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	1.44	...
62*	6047927	18.67	...	...	...	...	...	0.17	0.41	0.56	...	...	UV	1.38	...

**Table 2**  
(Continued)

Src	KIC ID	Kep Mag	GALEX FUV	GALEX NUV	<i>U</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>V</i>	<i>J</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>K</i>	log $f_X/f_V$	Light Curve?	Query Coords	Angular Sep. (")	ID
64	5966921	14.49	...	...	0.13	0.83	2.44	23.49	28.89	22.32	−1.23	Y	X	4.02	...
65	7288925	19.06	...	...	0.07	0.09	0.1	...	...	...	0.21	...	UV	0.6	...
66	6870455	7.66	...	...	36.44	...	...	11420.58	18702.51	14870.67	...	...	UV	0.48	K Star
67	6529378	13.82	...	...	1.07	4.7	10.93	38.7	42.73	32.5	−1.97	Y	UV	0.66	...
68	6956279	19.12	...	...	0.04	0.05	0.06	...	...	...	0.49	...	UV	0.18	...
69	6371741	14.5	...	...	2.13	...	...	4.29	2.85	1.95	...	Y	UV	0.66	...
70	6293269	18.13	...	...	...	0	84.65	33.15	38.15	30.72	0.05	...	X	1.08	...
71	6372268	11.44	...	...	6.15	27.67	63.16	229.56	260.56	189.12	−2.33	Y	UV	0.72	...
72*	6372529	19.05	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	UV	0.54	...
73	6380580	11.38	...	...	24.77	57.86	93.59	133.32	115.96	80.6	−2.79	Y	X	1.08	$\gamma$ Doradus <sup>e</sup>
75	5724440	7.874	...	...	...	...	...	1808.37	1259.8	847.09	...	Y	UV	3.72	$\delta$ Scuti <sup>n, o</sup>
76	6224104	15.16	...	...	0.66	1.67	2.7	4.07	3.43	2.43	−1.2	...	UV	0.18	...
77*	6062112	19.74	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	X	2.46	...
78	4857678	7.01	...	...	...	...	...	5139.12	3759.24	2572.35	...	Y	UV	0.96	F Star <sup>o</sup>
79	6225816	10.34	...	...	...	...	...	671.26	709.09	538.93	...	Y	UV	2.76	Rot. Var. <sup>e</sup>
80	6305971	19.47	...	...	...	...	0.05	...	...	...	0.4	...	UV	0.36	...
81	4585976	12.23	...	...	9.03	23.5	39.45	65.24	52.42	37.77	−2.62	Y	UV	0.036	$\gamma$ Doradus <sup>e</sup>
82*	6714686	16.01	...	...	...	...	...	0.68	0.9	1.06	...	...	X	1.38	...
83	5728924	18.16	...	...	0.06	0.06	0.09	0.5	0.82	1.26	0.27	...	X	4.32	...
84	6065241	14.69	...	...	0.19	1.11	3.74	43.9	49.97	38.76	−1	...	X	1.68	...
85*	5557932	8.14	...	...	...	...	...	2321.07	1901.52	1329.02	...	Y	UV	0.48	G Star
88	5646749	17.01	...	...	...	0.13	0.26	0.58	0.7	0.39	−0.31	...	X	0.36	...
89	6150124	7.25	...	...	...	...	...	8695.38	8431.41	6085.98	...	Y	UV	0.6	G Star
91	5733906	11.83	...	...	11.55	32.96	56.18	106.39	100.9	73.71	−2.47	Y	UV	0.66	Puls. Var. <sup>p</sup>
92	6550385	17.77	...	...	274.15	661.84	74.34	0.35	0.59	0.12	0.77	...	X	1.38	...
93*	5568067	11.59	...	...	...	...	...	2.19	3.23	3.24	...	Y	X	1.26	Cyg A <sup>q</sup>

**Note.** The nearest KIC counterparts to the X-ray/UV sources, out to a maximum separation of 5", and their corresponding *Kepler* magnitudes and fluxes in the FUV and NUV (from *GALEX*), the optical *UBV* bands (from the Everett et al. 2012 survey) and the infrared (from 2MASS). All fluxes are shown in mJy. Also given are the  $f_X/f_V$  ratios plotted in Figure 5, whether an archived light curve is available in the KIC, whether the X-ray or UV coordinates were used to query the KIC, the angular separation between the query coordinates and the KIC source, and any identifications of the objects in NED or SIMBAD. The references for the IDs are as follows:

<sup>a</sup> Schmidt et al. (2011).

<sup>b</sup> Pigulski et al. (2009).

<sup>c</sup> Kapanadze (2013).

<sup>d</sup> Massaro et al. (2009).

<sup>e</sup> Debosscher et al. (2011).

<sup>f</sup> Mushotzky et al. (2011).

<sup>g</sup> Carini & Ryle (2012).

<sup>h</sup> Gaulme et al. (2013).

<sup>i</sup> Scaringi et al. (2012).

<sup>j</sup> Cannizzo et al. (2012).

<sup>k</sup> Coughlin et al. (2011).

<sup>l</sup> Prša et al. (2011).

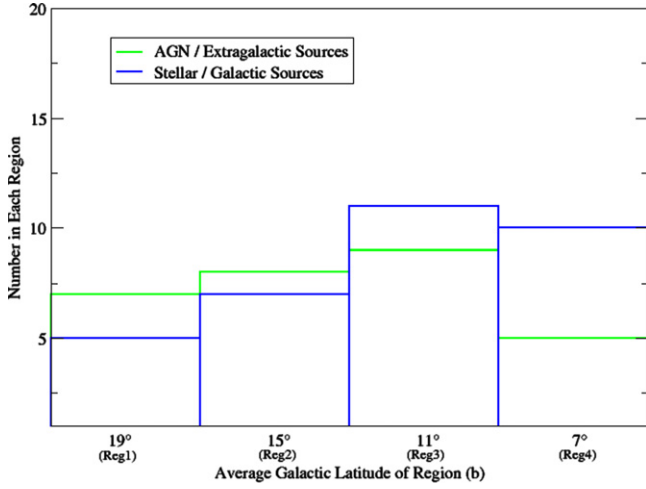
<sup>m</sup> Slawson et al. (2011).

<sup>n</sup> Catanzaro et al. (2011).

<sup>o</sup> Uytterhoeven et al. (2011).

<sup>p</sup> Balona (2012).

<sup>q</sup> Baade & Minkowski (1954).



**Figure 3.** Distribution of source types by average galactic latitude of each of our 4 regions. As shown in Figure 1, Region numbers increase as they approach the galactic plane; Region 1 is furthest from the galactic plane with  $b \sim 19^\circ$ , while Region 4 is the closest with  $b \sim 7^\circ$ . Stellar sources begin to outnumber extragalactic sources closer to the plane, as expected. The plot includes the 62 sources classified by spectra, light curve behavior, or a combination of  $f_X/f_V$  ratio,  $U - B$  color, and apparent magnitude. Sources with unknown or uncertain classifications are not included in the plot.

Below we discuss the spectral properties of the AGN and stellar sources.

### 3.1.1. AGN Spectra and Measured Parameters

There are 10 AGN among our Palomar spectra. Nine of them were type 1 (e.g., exhibit broad emission lines with  $\text{FWHM}_{H\beta} \geq 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ ), while one target, KSw 82, is a likely BL Lac object, exhibiting the typical flat, featureless continuum in multiple deep ( $\sim 3200 \text{ s}$ ) exposures. Newly confirmed AGN include KSw 2, 3, 25, 27, 39, 40, 55, 68, 82, and 92. They join the three previously known AGN in our sample: the BL Lac object BZB J1848+4245 (KSw 9), the type 1 AGN Zw 229–15 (KSw 20), and the radio galaxy Cygnus A (KSw 93). Their spectral types and redshifts are given in Table 3. Our spectral analysis indicates that the KSwAGS AGN encompass a wide range of black hole masses ( $7.3 \leq \log M_{\text{BH}} \leq 9.4$ ), redshifts ( $0.03 \leq z \leq 1.5$ ), and Eddington ratios ( $0.003 \leq \lambda_{\text{Edd}} \leq 0.45$ ).

It has long been theorized that the characteristic optical variability timescale in the accretion disk of an AGN should correlate with the mass of the supermassive black hole. This relationship has already been demonstrated in the X-ray, where a break frequency in the power spectrum has been detected. The timescale associated with the break is assumed to correspond to the physical size of the accretion disk (Uttley et al. 2002) and has been found to correlate with the black hole mass (McHardy et al. 2004). For further discussion, see Section 4.1. Recently, our group published the discovery of the first optical break frequency discovered in an AGN, using the *Kepler* light curve of Zw 229–15 (Edelson et al. 2014).

With this in mind, we calculate the redshift and black hole masses of our spectroscopically confirmed AGNs and present the values in Table 3. We calculated the black hole masses using the formulae from Wang et al. (2009); in the 7 objects that are low-redshift enough for the spectrum to contain  $H\beta$ , we

use the relation:

$$\log \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10^6 M_\odot} \right) = (1.39 \pm 0.14) + 0.5 \log \left( \frac{L_{5100}}{10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} \right) + (1.09 \pm 0.23) \log \left[ \frac{\text{FWHM}(H\beta)}{1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right]. \quad (1)$$

For our three AGNs with  $z > 0.6$ , the  $H\beta$  line is outside the clean region of the optical observing window, so we use the lower-wavelength Mg II  $\lambda 2799 \text{ \AA}$  line for BH mass estimation with the following relation:

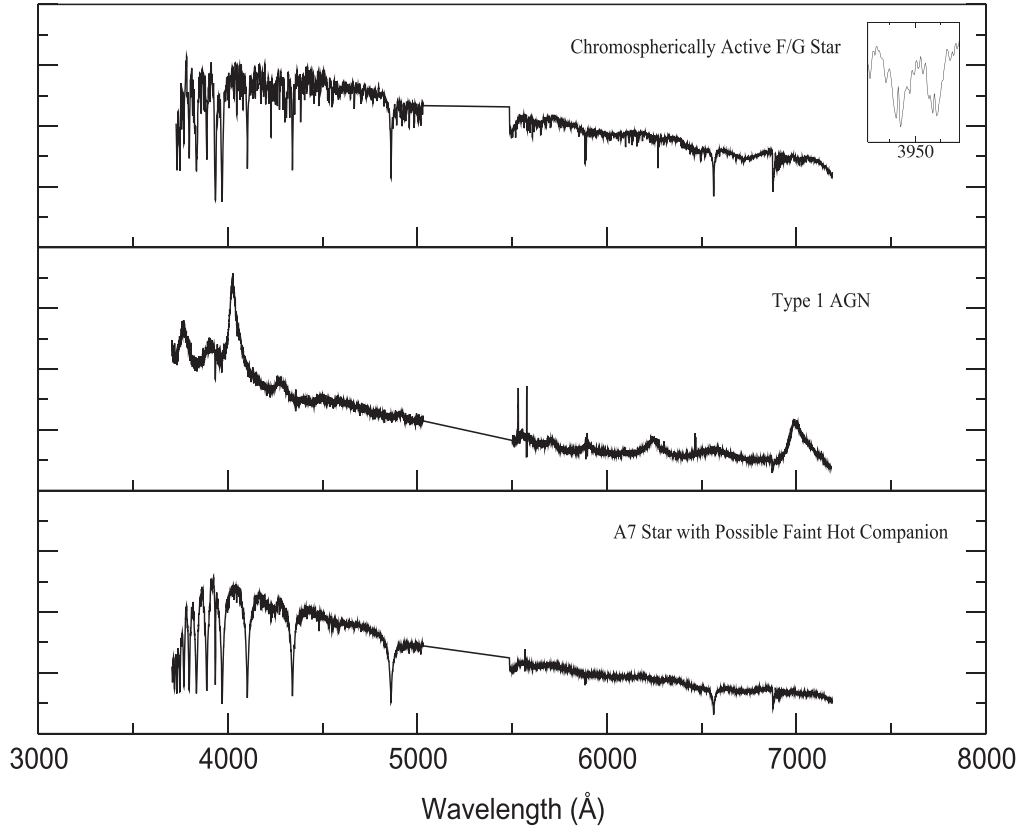
$$\log \left( \frac{M_{\text{BH}}}{10^6 M_\odot} \right) = (1.13 \pm 0.27) + 0.5 \log \left( \frac{L_{3000}}{10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} \right) + (1.51 \pm 0.49) \log \left[ \frac{\text{FWHM}(\text{Mg II})}{1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right], \quad (2)$$

where  $L_{3000}$  and  $L_{5100}$  are the continuum luminosities at 3000 Å and 5100 Å, respectively. The Eddington ratio  $\lambda_{\text{Edd}} = L_{\text{Edd}}/L_{\text{bol}}$  is a measure of the observed luminosity compared to the theoretical luminosity output of the maximal spherical accretion rate (known as the Eddington luminosity). With the masses in hand, we may calculate the Eddington luminosity for each of the sources via  $L_{\text{Edd}} = 1.38 \times 10^{38} (M_{\text{BH}}/M_\odot) \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ . The bolometric luminosity is estimated from the 0.2 to 10 keV X-ray luminosity using the bolometric correction factor of  $\sim 15$  given by Vasudevan & Fabian (2007); while this correction is widely used, there is significant empirical scatter in this relation, so the Eddington ratios given in Table 3 should be assumed with caution until detailed SED modeling is performed. The AGN types, redshifts, black hole masses and Eddington ratios are given for our confirmed AGNs in Table 3. In an upcoming paper, we will determine whether these AGN properties correlate with variability characteristics such as amplitude and characteristic frequency. A sample of the ongoing temporal analysis is given in Section 4.

### 3.1.2. Stellar Spectra

The Palomar spectra of the KSwAGS survey stars fall into roughly three groups. The first is comprised of typical M-dwarf spectra with strong Ca HK emission lines. M dwarfs with strong chromospheric activity are known to be X-ray sources, with high activity levels generally attributed to rapid rotation. Such rotation can indicate that the M dwarf is young and retains some innate formation spin, or that the star is in a binary with spin–orbit coupling (Lépine & Gaidos 2011). There is also a population of normal main-sequence spectra, which are not indicative of X-ray activity. In these cases, it is possible that there is a dim white dwarf companion contributing the X-ray flux that is too faint to affect the optical spectrum. Finally, there is a large population of G through K stars that exhibit broad and complex emission structures in their H alpha lines and the Ca HK lines (see top panel of Figure 4). The effective surface temperatures and surface gravities from the KIC for the stellar sources are given in Table 4; also given are the spectral types gathered from the Palomar spectra. The spectral type can be inferred from the effective temperature even for those objects





**Figure 4.** Optical spectra from the 200-inch Hale telescope at Palomar observatory, for three representative KSwAGS objects. In order from top panel to bottom, they are KSw 19, KSw 55, and KSw 69. The inset in the top panel is an expanded view of the Ca H and K lines ( $\lambda 3969$  Å and  $\lambda 3933$  Å), exhibiting the bright emission cores typical of chromospherically active stars.

**Table 3**  
Parameters of Spectroscopic AGNs

KSw Num.	Type	$z$	$\log M_{\text{BH}}$	$\lambda_{\text{Edd}}$
2	Sy 1	1.506	8.53	1.474
3	Sy 1	1.177	8.404	0.452
9 (BZB J1848+4245)	BL Lac	...	...	...
20 (Zw 229–15)	Sy 1	0.0266	7.29	0.038
25	Sy 1	0.609	8.898	0.042
27	Sy 1	0.056	...	...
39	Sy 1	0.533	8.382	0.113
40	Sy 1	0.38	8.111	0.109
55	Sy 1	0.437	8.783	0.069
68	Sy 1	0.36	8.553	0.026
82	BL Lac?	...	...	...
92	Sy 1	0.182	8.473	0.017
93 (Cyg A)	Radio Galaxy	0.056	9.398	0.003

**Note.** Spectroscopic type, redshifts, black hole masses and Eddington ratios of spectroscopically confirmed AGNs. Redshifts and black hole masses are not measurable for BL Lacs due to the lack of optical lines. Values of  $M_{\text{BH}}$  were obtained using the FWHM of the  $\text{Mg II } \lambda 2799$  Å or the  $\text{H}\beta$  line for high and low redshifts, respectively. Unfortunately, the redshift in source 27 was such that  $\text{H}\beta$  fell in the dichroic break and was too low for measurement of  $\text{Mg II}$ . Values of redshift and black hole mass for KSw 93, which is Cygnus A, were obtained from Tadhunter et al. (2003). See Section 3.1.1 for details on how values were obtained.

without Palomar spectra; however, note that the KIC temperatures are derived from *griz* photometry and may be  $\sim 100$ – $200$  K too low in many cases (Pinsonneault et al. 2012).

### 3.2. X-Ray to Optical Ratios

When an X-ray source has a UV/optical counterpart, the calculation of the X-ray to optical flux ratio can provide source classification information. As noted in Maccacaro et al. (1988) for the Einstein Extended Medium Sensitivity Survey (Gioia et al. 1990) sources, the X-ray to optical flux ratio is a powerful tool in optical identification of X-ray sources. In general, all classes of AGNs, including BL Lac objects, Seyfert galaxies, and QSOs, have by far the highest  $f_X/f_V$  ratios, followed by stellar accreting binaries. Coronal stellar sources such as dMe stars typically have the lowest ratios. Krautter et al. (1999) measured  $f_X/f_V$  average values across a range of objects for a representative region of the RASS. Their average ratio values are  $\log[f_X/f_V] = -2.46 \pm 1.27$  for stellar sources and  $\log[f_X/f_V] = +0.41 \pm 0.65$  for AGNs.

The optical counterparts for KSwAGS sources are drawn from the KIC (for details on counterpart identification, see Section 2). We draw our *V* magnitudes used in constructing these ratios from the Everett et al. (2012) *UBV* optical survey of the *Kepler* FOV; the fluxes in these bands for objects covered by the *UBV* survey are provided in Table 2.

Typical X-ray detections have too few counts per energy bin to model the X-ray spectrum; therefore, in order to obtain the X-ray flux from the XRT count rates, one must assume a photon index that fits the general continuum shape of the underlying spectrum. Since we do not know the source type, we instead use PIMMS (Mukai 1993) to calculate the flux of each object using a range of feasible photon indices, from  $\Gamma = 1$ – $2.5$ . This range encompasses typical values of  $\Gamma$  for all object types, from active stellar sources to AGNs. Heinke et al.

**Table 4**  
Parameters of Spectroscopic Stars

KSw Num.	$T_{\text{eff}}$	Log $g$	Spectral Type
1	5953	4.297	F
6	4478	2.64	...
13	...	...	G
14	5607	4.307	G
16	...	...	G
19	4817	4.093	K
22	4551	1.941	...
23	8973	4.001	...
24	4590	2.485	...
28	5453	3.744	G
35	...	...	F
38	4967	4.376	K
47	5899	4.232	F
49	9046	4.014	...
52	5513	3.7	...
53	...	...	...
54	...	...	M
57	4667	3.317	K
64	3831	4.291	M
66	...	...	M
67	...	...	...
69	8742	3.929	A
71	...	...	K
73	5570	3.906	...
75	7292	3.566	...
76	6165	4.282	F
78	...	...	F
79	...	...	...
81	5641	3.902	...
84	...	...	M
85	5617	4.21	G
89	...	...	G
91	5241	3.688	K

**Note.** Effective surface temperature, surface gravities, and spectral types indicated by the Palomar spectra for the 33 confirmed stellar KSwAGS sources. The temperatures and gravities are from the *Kepler* Input Catalog (KIC), while the spectral types are given only for those objects with Palomar spectra.

(2008) found that magnetic and nonmagnetic CVs from the ASCA X-ray survey have average photon indices of  $\Gamma = 1.22 \pm 0.33$  and  $1.97 \pm 0.20$ , respectively. Values of  $\Gamma$  for AGN have been measured for many samples and range from  $\Gamma \sim 1.5$ – $2.5$  (e.g., Nandra & Pounds 1994; Page et al. 2005). In all PIMMS count-to-flux conversions, we use the galactic column density at the source position cataloged by Kalberla et al. (2005). We do not find that the choice of photon index changes the value of  $f_X/f_V$  significantly.

In Figure 5, we show the  $f_X/f_V$  ratio of all survey sources that have an optical counterpart in the KIC within 5 arcsec of the UVOT position (or the XRT position, if the object was outside the UVOT FOV or had no UVOT counterpart). For objects without  $V$  magnitudes in the KIC, we use the *Kepler* magnitude (given in Table 2 as “kepmag”) as a very rough proxy. The *Kepler* magnitude is a generic optical magnitude calculated using various available optical measurements for any given object in the FOV; its detailed determination can be found in Brown et al. (2011). Denoted in the figure are the average values for extragalactic and galactic sources from Krautter et al. (1999). The KSwAGS survey conforms to these typical ratio values: the average value for all confirmed stellar objects in our

survey for which optical data was available is  $\log[f_X/f_V] = -2.09 \pm 0.27$ ; for confirmed AGN, the value is  $\log[f_X/f_V] = +0.44 \pm 0.81$ . The calculated values of the ratio for each object are given in Table 2. Figure 5 shows that the full distribution of KSwAGS sources cluster around the AGN and stellar average values, but have a significant spread. Indeed, as Krautter et al. (1999) points out, there is overlap between the two types of objects. In particular, white dwarfs and cataclysmic binaries show very high  $f_X/f_V$  ratios for stellar sources, reaching into the lower tail of the AGN range. Therefore, in absence of a spectrum, a low or high  $f_X/f_V$  value will at least offer a reliable classification of whether an X-ray source is stellar or extragalactic. Intermediate values of  $f_X/f_V$  are not reliable classifiers, as there is significant overlap between source types for middling ratios.

### 3.3. SEDs

Using the multiple photometric data points provided from the 2MASS, *GALEX*, and *UBV* Everett et al. (2012) surveys, along with our UVOT and XRT data, we can construct broadband SEDs for our sample across a wide wavelength range from infrared through X-ray. The archival surveys utilize varying magnitude systems, so in order to construct the SED, we converted these various systems to the consistent unit of millijanskies (mJy). The following discussion outlines this conversion process for each different survey. The final mJy fluxes are given in Table 2.

#### 3.3.1. GALEX Magnitudes

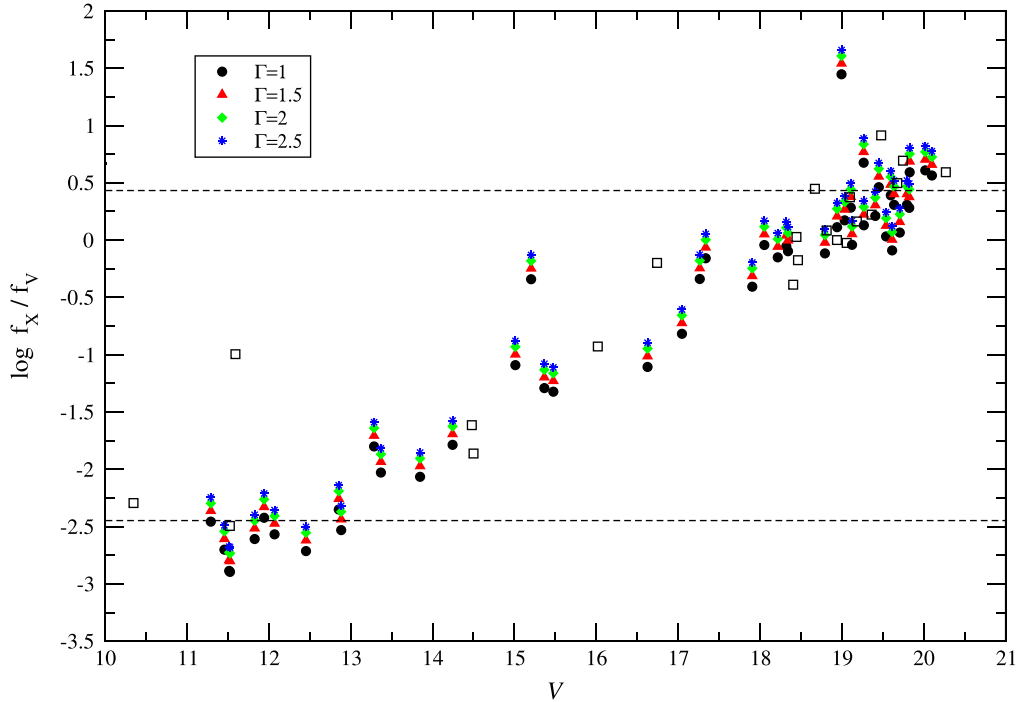
The *GALEX* satellite surveyed the sky in the FUV and NUV bands, with effective wavelengths of 1538.6 Å and 2315.7 Å, respectively. *GALEX* data releases GR6 and GR7 included increased coverage of the *Kepler* FOV, resulting in the KIC-*GALEX* crossmatched survey. There are two possible search mechanisms for the crossmatched survey. As defined by *GALEX*, they are (1) the “accurate” search method, which only returns a counterpart that is within  $2''.5$  of the query coordinates and is unique (i.e., there are no other matches to either the KIC or *GALEX* source within this separation), and (2) the “complete” search method, which returns all counterparts within  $5''$  of the query coordinates. In order to reduce spurious information in our survey, we have provided *GALEX* magnitudes only when our KIC coordinates have a *GALEX* counterpart using the “accurate” method.

The survey uses the AB magnitude system (Oke & Gunn 1983). The zero points of the *GALEX* magnitudes for the two bands were calculated by Morrissey et al. (2007) to be 18.82 (FUV) and 20.08 (NUV). Additionally, one count per second in *GALEX* corresponds to reference fluxes of  $1.40 \times 10^{-15}$  and  $2.06 \times 10^{-16}$  erg cm<sup>2</sup> s<sup>−1</sup> Å<sup>−1</sup> in the FUV and NUV, respectively. Conversion of the given magnitudes to fluxes in erg cm<sup>2</sup> s<sup>−1</sup> Å<sup>−1</sup> is thus achieved using the following formulae:

$$f_{\text{FUV}} = 1.40 \times 10^{-15} \cdot 10^{\frac{m_{\text{AB,FUV}} - 18.82}{-2.5}} \quad (3)$$

$$f_{\text{NUV}} = 2.06 \times 10^{-16} \cdot 10^{\frac{m_{\text{AB,NUV}} - 20.08}{-2.5}}. \quad (4)$$

Conversion to frequency units is then simply achieved by multiplying each flux by  $\lambda^2/c$ , where  $\lambda$  is the peak wavelength of the band, and can then be directly converted to mJy.



**Figure 5.** X-ray and optical flux ratios for all sources in the sample with a  $V$  magnitude given by the Everett et al. (2012) survey. Lines indicate the average value of this ratio for all stellar objects,  $\langle \log[f_X/f_V] \rangle = -2.46 \pm 1.27$ , and for all AGN types,  $\langle \log[f_X/f_V] \rangle = 0.41 \pm 0.65$ , as given in Krautter et al. (1999). The X-ray fluxes were estimated using a variety of values for the photon index ( $\Gamma$ ), shown in the legend. Black squares indicate objects for which no  $V$  magnitude is available, and so the *Kepler* magnitude was used as a rough proxy. These values should be considered very approximate.

### 3.3.2. *UBV* and *2MASS* Magnitudes

The conversion to flux density is simpler for the *UBV* and *2MASS* magnitudes, as their flux density zero points are known and tabulated in the proper units for our purposes. In this case, the flux in Jy for any band  $A$  is calculated using:

$$f_A = f_{A,0} \cdot 10^{\frac{m_A}{-2.5}} \quad (5)$$

Aiming to facilitate optical source selection of interesting targets in the *Kepler* field, Everett et al. (2012) completed a *UBV* photometric survey of the field with the NOAO Mosaic-1.1 Wide Field Imager and the WIYN 0.9 m telescope on Kitt Peak. The magnitudes are in the traditional Vega-based Johnson system, and can be converted easily to fluxes using the standard tabulated fluxes at zero magnitude of the  $U$ ,  $B$ , and  $V$  bands of 1823, 4130, and 3781 Jy.

The absolute calibration of the *2MASS* survey was performed by Cohen et al. (2003). The fluxes at zero magnitude for the *JHK* filters are 1594, 1024, and 666.8 Jy, respectively.

With all given magnitudes converted to consistent flux units, we constructed the broadband SEDs for objects that have data in at least three wavebands. Plotted in Figure 6 are the SEDs of five representative objects from different regions of the  $f_X/f_V$  plot; three stellar objects and two AGNs. This analysis is only informative for objects with data in *2MASS*, the Everett et al. (2012) *UBV* survey, and/or *GALEX*, so we have displayed the SEDs for objects of each type with the most available data points. Note that AGNs will necessarily have fewer detections in the ancillary surveys, since they are relatively much fainter on average than stellar sources in the optical and UV. Only two of the sources have *GALEX* data. The *GALEX* NUV filter overlaps with the UVOT M2 filter; however, because the observations are widely disparate in time, discrepancies in the

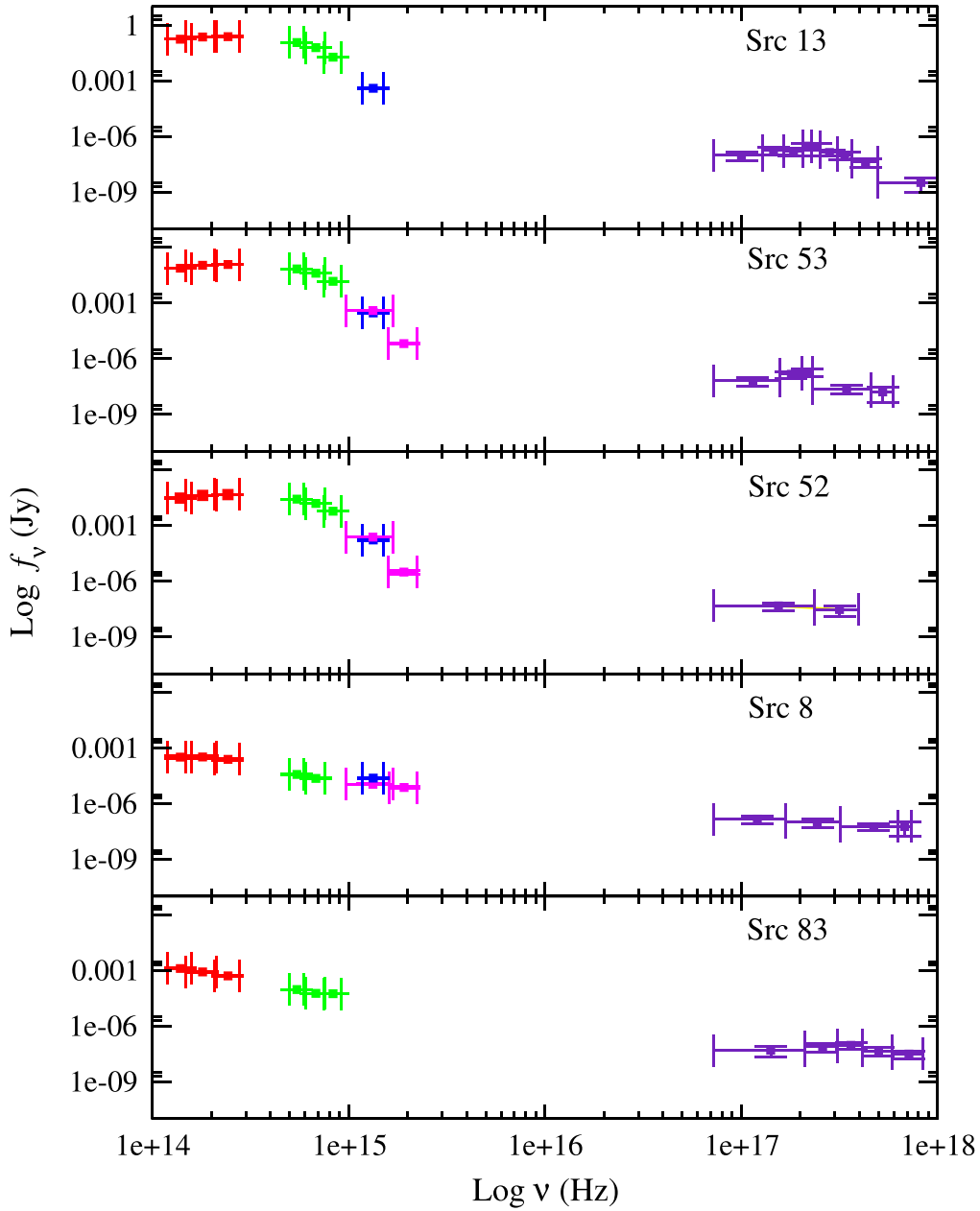
flux values might indicate time variability. Additionally, since the *2MASS* and *UBV* measurements are also disparate in time, SED fitting is not appropriate.

Nonetheless, one can clearly see that the AGN-type SEDs are flatter than the stellar SEDs at lower frequencies, and differ characteristically enough to allow for reliable source classification.

## 4. SAMPLE LIGHT CURVES

The driving motivation behind this survey is the unprecedented photometric precision of *Kepler* and its application to astrophysical sources beyond exoplanet detection. Over its  $\sim 4$  year operational lifetime, *Kepler* routinely monitored over 150,000 stars, the overwhelming majority of which show no evidence of transiting exoplanets due to simple geometry. The unmatched photometric quality of the dataset will result in the *Kepler* targets being the best monitored astrophysical sources ever, and ancillary data will help insure they are also the best understood. There are many types of X-ray bright, optically variable sources both within and beyond the Galaxy. The MAST *Kepler* Data Search tool allows the user to input coordinates, object names, or KIC ID numbers and obtain all available quarterly light curves for any object. All *Kepler* data is now public, so if an object has been observed, in general one can download and analyze the light curves.

To demonstrate the temporal analyses to be carried out on the survey products, we have selected one representative object from each class (stellar and AGN). The following sections constitute a sample of results to be presented in upcoming papers focusing on the spectral and time-series analysis of each source type.



**Figure 6.** Broadband SEDs for three stellar objects (top three panels) and two AGN (bottom two panels). Red points are the 2MASS JHK colors, green points are *UBV* fluxes calculated from the Everett et al. (2012) survey, blue points are UVOT M2 filter fluxes, magenta points are *GALEX* FUV and NUV fluxes, and purple points are XRT fluxes from this survey. The objects were selected as stellar or AGN based on their  $\log f_X/f_V$  values (i.e., their position on Figure 5).

#### 4.1. AGN: Timing Overview

The discovery of AGN in the *Kepler* FOV was the original primary motivation for this survey. Although a few AGNs were known to be in the field, a lack of overlap with large spectroscopic surveys like SDSS prevented the curation of a sizable sample. Additionally, the known AGNs in the field were typically selected by techniques known to bias the final sample. X-ray detection is the least-biased AGN selection method, as it is immune to all but the most intense dust obscuration and to the effect of dilution of the optical or infrared colors by host galaxy starlight (Mushotzky 2004). Our survey is approximately ten times deeper than the RASS, which included only a handful of confirmed AGNs in this region of the sky.

The optical emission in an AGN is believed to originate in an accretion disk. The variability of this emission then implies stochastic processes within the disk. There are several candidate processes that theoretically give rise to rapid optical variability, including reprocessing of the variations of the central X-ray source, the orbital dynamics of the gas in the disk itself, spatial viscosity variations, and turbulent thermal processes. A clear understanding of the relationship of AGN parameters to overall variability requires a self-consistent, complete theory of accretion disks including radiative physics; this does not yet exist and there are many hurdles left for such simulations. The approach has therefore been largely empirical, involving observed correlations like the McHardy et al. (2004) study showing a relationship between the characteristic time-scale of X-ray variability and black hole mass spanning many

orders of magnitude, from stellar-mass black hole systems like Cygnus X-1 to Type 1 Seyfert galaxies. Such observations remain unexplained, but seem to be robust for the 2–10 keV band (e.g., González-Martín & Vaughan 2012; Ludlam et al. 2015). Additional approaches have involved mathematical modeling of observed variability as a damped random walk model (MacLeod et al. 2010) and propagating fluctuations that produce flicker noise (Lyubarskii 1997).

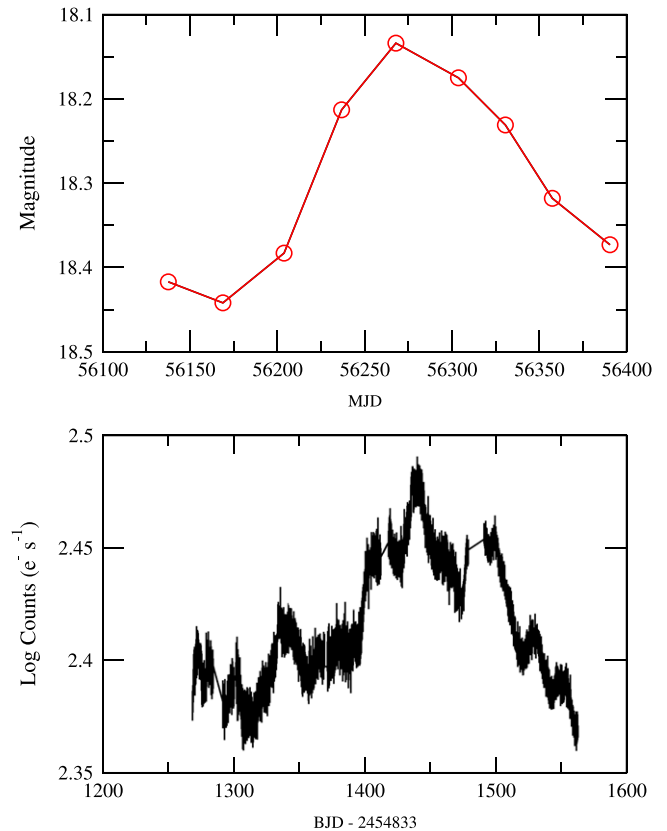
The *Kepler* data are superior to all previous AGN light curves ever obtained, in both photometric precision and continuous sampling frequency. The proper analysis techniques to analyze these light curves must be carefully constructed to mitigate the systematic errors known to be present in the *Kepler* data, such as the Moiré pattern drift noise (Kolodziejczak et al. 2010) and the inter-quarter discontinuities introduced by spacecraft rolls.

Orbital timescales for typical AGN black hole masses ( $10^6$ – $10^9 M_\odot$ ) span a few days to months; timescales which we can probe using the *Kepler* light curves. Edelson et al. (2014) reported the first detection of an optical timescale break, detected at  $\sim 5$  days, for one of our X-ray detected previously known AGN (Zw 229-15). A small number of our confirmed AGNs have continuous *Kepler* monitoring (see Table 2, columns with “Y”). Our original intent was to propose for *Kepler* to monitor all KSwAGS X-ray sources as soon as we had confirmed them; however, only four of the newly discovered sources were being monitored at the time of the failure of the second reaction wheel that put an end to the original *Kepler* mission. For those objects without archived light curves, we are able to construct coarsely sampled light curves with 30-day cadence for the entirety of the 4 year mission using the FFIs: snapshots of the entire FOV downloaded each month to verify pointing calibrations. We have written a customized pipeline to handle the FFI data cubes and produce a light curve for any source that was on silicon, whether or not it was included in the KIC. Figure 7 demonstrates that our FFI method faithfully tracks the variability in the archived light curve for KSw 9 (KIC 7175757; BZB J1848+4245). The displayed data is typical of the AGN light curves in our sample: aperiodic and stochastic, with both short- and long-term variability and with higher amplitudes at longer timescales.

An upcoming paper in this series will explore in detail the variability of the AGNs in our sample, using our custom pipelines for both the FFIs and the archived data. It will also include all of the spectra and measurable X-ray properties of our confirmed AGN. We plan to use a variety of time series analysis techniques to search for characteristic timescales and correlations of variability properties with the measured parameters. Our spectroscopic campaign is currently continuing on the 4.3 m Discovery Channel Telescope at Lowell Observatory.

#### 4.2. Stars: Timing Overview

As described in Section 3.1.2, the Palomar spectra of the KSwAGS survey stars fall into roughly three groups: M dwarfs with strong line emission, normal main sequence spectra, and G through K stars with broad and complex emission structures in their H alpha lines and the Ca H and K lines. Their *vsini* measurements cluster around roughly  $100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , implying that, as a group, they are rapid rotators. Rapid rotation and X-ray luminosity are strongly correlated, and such stars are concentrated in two basic stellar populations: young stars,

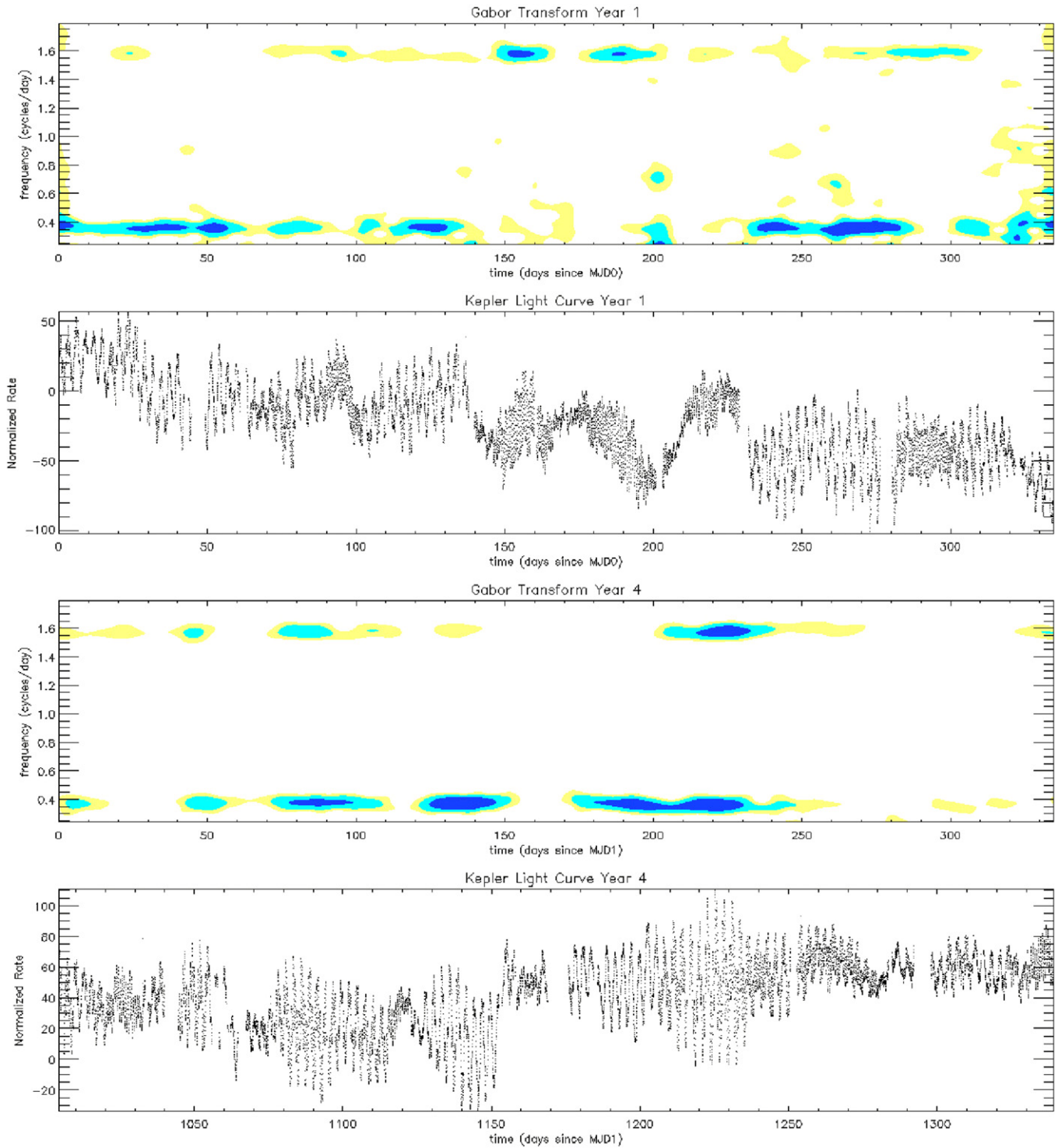


**Figure 7.** Full-frame image (FFI) light curve with 30-day sampling (top panel) and the standard *Kepler* light curve with 30-minute sampling (bottom panel) for KSw 9 (KIC 7175757), a BL Lac type AGN. The bottom panel’s flux units have been put into a log scale for consistency with the magnitude units in the top panel. Both light curves are the output of our custom pipeline. While the FFI light curve involves different extraction apertures and procedures, as well as entirely different source images, the behavior of the variability is faithfully tracked.

which have not had time to lose their angular momentum, and binary stars, where tidal transfer of orbital momentum maintains the rotational angular momentum.

Preliminary investigation of the 27 *Kepler* light curves of KSwAGS stellar sources supports this. Fourier analysis of these sources detects highly significant periods in 22 of the 27 objects. Twenty have periods of 10 days or less, and nine of these have periods less than one day. Most show evidence of slow period and amplitude evolution over multiple *Kepler* quarters. Figure 8 shows the light curves and dynamic power spectra over two years for KSw 47 (KIC 6365080). In this example, we note the complex interplay between two fundamental periods at  $\sim 2.8$  and  $\sim 0.64$  days, with constant frequencies but dramatically varying amplitudes. McQuillan et al. (2014) include this object in their large sample of rotationally variable stars in the *Kepler* field, and attribute the longer period to rotation; however, they only exclude pulsating stars by making a simple cut in effective temperature, and have likely not excluded all pulsators. The effective temperature in the KIC is given as  $T_{\text{eff}} = 5900 \text{ K}$  from *griz* photometry; however, our Palomar spectrum suggests an F type star. This is not necessarily unusual: the KIC temperatures may be  $\sim 100$ – $200 \text{ K}$  too cool, as reported by Pinsonneault et al. (2012). If the shorter period is indeed due to pulsation, then the frequency and stellar type suggest the object is an RR Lyrae star, which typically have periods of 0.2–1 days. Such





**Figure 8.** Light curves and dynamical power spectra (also known as Gabor transforms) for the first and fourth years of continuous *Kepler* monitoring of the variable star KSw 47 (KIC 6365080). There are two dominant periods with constant frequency but varying amplitude. Such light curves appear frequently in our sample of X-ray bright, *Kepler*-monitored stars.

complex, multi-periodic light curves are typical for a number of KSwAGS targets. Further investigation of *Kepler* photometry will allow us to track the growth, migration, and decay of starspots, differential rotation, activity cycles, and flaring on a wide variety of single and binary stars, offering a unique opportunity to measure magnetic activity cycles for a large sample of late-type stars, which could provide important constraints for developing better stellar dynamo models and a

clearer understanding of how they function. The timing properties of the KSwAGS stellar sources will be fully investigated in an upcoming paper in this series.

## 5. CONTINUATION IN THE K2 FIELDS

Since the second reaction wheel failure and the resulting loss of pointing stability in the original FOV, the *Kepler* mission

has been modified and repurposed as “K2.” The new mission utilizes solar radiation pressure and the remaining two wheels to maintain pointing for approximately 3 months at a time, in fields aligned along the ecliptic plane (Howell et al. 2014). The new incarnation has been proven to produce photometric precision on par with that of the nominal mission, according to the K2 photometry status report conducted after the redesign in 2013 December.

We have surveyed K2 Field 4 with *Swift* using the same array of pointings as our original survey described in this paper. We supplemented our successful K2 monitoring proposal with sources from various additional X-ray missions including *ROSAT*, *Chandra*, and *XMM-Newton*, as well as from the Million Quasar Catalog (“Milliquas”).<sup>6</sup> Additionally, we have submitted the pointing coordinates for K2 Fields 8 and 10 to *Swift*; the survey in those fields will begin presently. We expect to continue to publish future versions of the KSwAGS survey as we increase our sample in the new fields; additionally, all future KSwAGS sources will have 30-minute cadence light curves for the full 3 month duration of each field pointing. The K2 campaign covers a wide range of galactic latitudes; the field we have surveyed so far, Field 4, is in the constellation Taurus at an approximate galactic latitude of  $b \sim 15^\circ$ . We have communicated with the *Kepler* and K2 Guest Observer (GO) offices to add our X-ray and UV survey products to the KIC and the EPIC (Ecliptic Plane Input Catalog), so that the wider astronomical community can access these data for their own analyses.

## 6. SUMMARY

This paper has introduced and described the KSwAGS survey, a *Swift* XRT and UVOT survey of four modules of the *Kepler* FOV. The survey discovered 93 total X-ray sources with  $S/N \geq 3$ , with exposure times of  $\sim 2000$  s per pointing. Of these, 60 have counterparts that were observed simultaneously with UVOT (the remaining 33 were not in the corresponding UVOT images of any of our XRT pointings, due to the smaller FOV of the UVOT telescope). The aim of the survey was to obtain X-ray sources that are likely to have optical counterparts with variability of astrophysical interest, especially AGNs. The survey also produced a large number of stellar sources, both new and previously known in the literature. In most cases, the KSwAGS survey provides the first X-ray and UV observations for these objects.

Twenty-three of the source counterparts had optical classifications in the literature. We obtained optical spectra at Palomar for an additional 30 sources. Of these 53 total sources with certain identification, 13 are AGNs and 40 are stars. In the absence of spectra, we demonstrate that most of the survey sources can be categorized as either stellar or extragalactic using the flux ratio  $f_X/f_V$  or broadband SED shape.

As a sample of the future analysis to be carried out on the KSwAGS sources, we have shown example light curves and dynamical power spectra of a typical star from our survey, and both types of light curves (FFI and standard *Kepler*) for an AGN.

The KSwAGS survey has identified numerous new X-ray sources in the original *Kepler* field which can be followed up

either using archived light curves from the KIC database, or by constructing 30-day cadence light curves using the FFIs, which can be done for any source in the survey regardless of whether it was monitored by *Kepler*. This opens up a new phase space of X-ray and UV bright targets with high-quality optical time sampling. The survey is currently continuing in Fields 4, 8, and 10 of the K2 mission, the new extension of *Kepler* to the ecliptic plane, and will continue to yield a rich crop of X-ray bright, optically variable targets for monitoring with the most exquisite photometer of our time.

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<sup>6</sup> Milliquas is unpublished but can be accessed at <http://quasars.org/milliquas.htm> or via the NASA HEASARC at <http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/W3Browse/all/milliquas.html>

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